

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA**

Jamie Lynam,

Petitioner,

v.

Julie Nicklin,

Respondent.

Case No. 15-cv-1874 (DSD/HB)

**AMENDED¹ REPORT AND
RECOMMENDATION**

HILDY BOWBEER, United States Magistrate Judge

Petitioner Jamie Lynam, a prisoner at the Federal Correctional Institution in Waseca, Minnesota, has filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2241. In her petition, Lynam challenges the validity of a federal conviction and sentence incurred in the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri. This Court, however, lacks jurisdiction to consider Lynam's petition, as her challenge should have been brought in a motion under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 in the district where she was convicted.

“A federal inmate generally must challenge a conviction or sentence through a § 2255 motion.” *Lopez-Lopez v. Sanders*, 590 F.3d 905, 907 (8th Cir. 2010) (citation omitted). Therefore, “[i]t is well settled a collateral challenge to a federal conviction or sentence must generally be raised in a motion to vacate filed in the sentencing court under § 2255 . . . and not in a habeas petition filed in the court of incarceration . . . under

¹ The only change to this Report and Recommendation corrects the year on the date that objections are due. There are no other changes to the text of the document.

§ 2241.” *Hill v. Morrison*, 349 F.3d 1089, 1091 (8th Cir. 2003). Federal district courts lack jurisdiction to hear a federal prisoner’s collateral challenge to her original conviction or sentence brought in a habeas petition unless the prisoner demonstrates that the remedy provided by § 2255 is inadequate or ineffective to test the legality of her detention. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 2255(e) (“An application for a writ of habeas corpus [on] behalf of a [federal] prisoner . . . shall not be entertained . . . unless it also appears that the remedy by motion is inadequate or ineffective to test the legality of his detention.”); *DeSimone v. Lacy*, 805 F.2d 321, 323 (8th Cir. 1986) (per curiam). The “inadequate or ineffective remedy” exception is sometimes called the “savings clause,” *see Abdullah v. Hedrick*, 392 F.3d 957, 959 (8th Cir. 2004), because when it applies it can “save” a habeas petition from being dismissed under the § 2255(e) exclusive-remedy rule.

Lynam argues in her habeas petition that her conviction and sentence are invalid for several reasons. It does not appear, however, that anything currently precludes Lynam from raising these arguments through a § 2255 motion in the Western District of Missouri. For example, Lynam has not previously filed a motion under § 2255, and so she is not subject to the restrictions on second or successive motions under that statute. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 2255(h). Moreover, Lynam is still within the one-year limitations period to bring a claim challenging her conviction. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 2255(f). And none of the challenges raised by Lynam are cognizable only on habeas review; indeed, it is overwhelmingly likely that Lynam *must* seek relief under § 2255 and may not avail herself of habeas relief, due to the operation of the exclusive-remedy rule. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 2255(e).

In short, there is nothing in the record indicating that § 2255 is “inadequate or ineffective to test the legality” of Lynam’s detention in this case. *Id.* This Court therefore recommends that this matter be transferred to the Western District of Missouri, so that the arguments presented by Lynam in her habeas petition may be considered by that court in accordance with § 2255.

Accordingly, based on all the files, records, and proceedings herein, **IT IS**
HEREBY RECOMMENDED that this matter be **TRANSFERRED** to the United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri.

Dated: April 23, 2015

s/ *Hildy Bowbeer*
HILDY BOWBEER
United States Magistrate Judge

NOTICE

Under D. Minn. LR 72.2(b) any party may object to this Report and Recommendation by filing with the Clerk of Court, and serving all parties by **May 12, 2015**, a writing which specifically identifies those portions of this Report to which objections are made and the basis of those objections. Failure to comply with this procedure may operate as a forfeiture of the objecting party’s right to seek review in the Court of Appeals. A party may respond to the objecting party’s brief within fourteen days after service thereof. All briefs filed under this rule shall be limited to 3500 words. A district judge shall make a de novo determination of those portions of the Report to which objection is made. This Report and Recommendation does not constitute an order or judgment of the District Court, and it is therefore not appealable directly to the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals.